

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 02870 041229Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 L-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /028 W

-----041235Z 021200 /17

R 041148Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6574

INFO DA WASHDC//DAMO-SSA//

CDRTRADOC FT MONROE VA//ATTNG-PRD-SA-T//

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY//ECJ4/7-SARA-T//

CDRUSA CRIME LAB FT GORDON GA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PINT, KE

SUBJECT: FIREARMS IDENTIFICATION TRAINING FOR KENYA POLICE

REF: (A) STATE 017363, (B) 76 NAIROBI 13349,
(C) DSAA 4058/76 282216Z DEC 76

1. IN REPLY TO JUSTIFICATION REQUESTED IN REFTEL A, EMBASSY
SUBMITS FOLLOWING:

2. PURPOSE OF PROPOSED TRAINING:

A. ENABLE GOK POLICE PERSONNEL TO QUALIFY AS EXPERTS IN
COURT TESTIMONY REGARDING BALLISTICS AND FIREARMS EXAMINATION.

B. TO IDENTIFY WEAPONS USED IN CRIMINAL AND TERRORIST
ACTIVITY BY TYPE, MODEL AND INDIVIDUAL WEAPON USING SCIENTIFIC
TECHNIQUES FOR COMPARISON AND EVALUATION.

C. TO ESTABLISH FROM EXISTING EVIDENCE THE OWNERSHIP AND
ORIGIN OF THESE WEAPONS.

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3. USEFULNESS TO GOK:

A. COUNTER-GUERRILLA AND BANDIT OPERATIONS. PRIMARILY
IN NORTHERN PROVINCES DIRECTED AGAINST INFILTRATION
OF SOMALI SHIFTA GUERRILLAS. THESE OPERATIONS TO DATE HAVE
BEEN CONDUCTED BY THE KENYAN ARMY AND THE KENYA POLICE,
PARA-MILITARY GENERAL SERVICES UNIT (GSU). THEY ARE CONDUCTED

AS POLICE OPERATIONS REQUIRING ALL UNITS INVOLVED TO RESTRICT THEIR ACTIVITIES TO THOSE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT. THE SERVICES OF A COMPETENT FIREARMS EXAMINER WOULD BE EXTREMELY VALUABLE TO THE GOK FROM THE STANDPOINT OF INITIAL IDENTIFICATION OF THE TYPE AND ORIGIN OF WEAPONS USED AND ALSO AS AN EXPERT WITNESS AT SUBSEQUENT COURT PROCEEDINGS.

B. CONVENTIONAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, TERRORISM. GOK SOURCES ESTIMATE THAT THE NUMBER OF CONVENTIONAL CRIMES (MURDER, ROBBERY, ETC.) INVOLVING THE USE OF A FIREARM HAVE INCREASED APPROXIMATELY 50 PERCENT IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS. POACHING IN THE NATIONAL PARKS REMAINS A SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH POSSIBLE LONG TERM DAMAGE TO THE TOURIST INDUSTRY. KENYA MUST BE CONSIDERED AN AREA OF POSSIBLE TERRORIST ACTIVITY BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL ORIENTATION AND MILITANCY OF HER NEIGHBORS. A TRAINED FIREARMS AND BALLISTICS EXPERT WOULD BE A KEY PERSON IN THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF ANY CASES INVOLVING THE ABOVE TYPE OF ACTIVITY.

4. AS MENTIONED REFTTEL B, THE KENYA POLICE, IN ADDITION TO THE ARMED FORCES WITH FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES. THE KENYA POLICE HAVE ADVISED THAT THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN PROPOSED TRAINING COULD BE SECONDED TO THE KENYA ARMY IF NECESSARY TO OVERCOME OBJECTIONS RAISED IN REFTTEL C. THE KENYA POLICE IS UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

5. DIRECT USG INTERESTS:

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KENYA IS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CENTER, WITH SEVERAL IMPORTANT MULTILATERAL CONFERENCES ANNUALLY ATTENDED BY SUBSTANTIAL USG DELEGATIONS. MOREOVER, NAIROBI IS A REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR BOTH USG AND PRIVATE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE KENYA POLICE IS THUS IN OUR INTEREST, AND THE COOPERATION OF THE KENYA POLICE ON VARIOUS SECURITY REQUIREMENTS IS ALSO OF VALUE TO USG. THIS COOPERATION MAY BECOME EVEN MORE VALUABLE IN FUTURE IN AREAS SUCH AS COUNTER-TERRORISM AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT. OFFERING TRAINING OF A STAFF TECHNICAL NATURE ON REIMBURSABLE BASIS, IN A SPECIALTY FOR WHICH KENYA BELIEVES WE ARE UNIQUELY QUALIFIED, IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR CONTINUED CLOSE RELATIONS WITH KENYA POLICE. MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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